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*Published by the contributors to advance the Science of cold-blooded vertebrates.*

## AN INTERESTING FORM OF THE SNAPPING TURTLE.

*(Chelydra serpentina.)*

Recently several large snapping turtles have been received at the Philadelphia Aquarium, which appear to differ from those found commonly about Philadelphia and the Middle Atlantic States generally. I am indebted to Mr. W. E. Meehan, the Director of the Aquarium, for the opportunity of examining them. Altogether three specimens are in his possession, one from Minnesota and the others from Lake Copake in New York. Of the last, one is small. All agree in one striking feature, though most developed in the two large examples, in the presence of three lengthwise keels on the upper surface of the carapace being well elevated and very conspicuous. Other examples with low and evenly convex carapaces, and with the keels but slightly developed, if at all present, are of all ages, the largest measuring  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches over the longest diameter of the carapace. These local specimens are from Pennsylvania and New Jersey. This evidence is interesting, as most writers state that the carapace becomes gradually smoother with age, though my incomplete observations, chiefly from lack of northern material for comparison,

would point to a possible existence of two forms. This involves a question of the correct application of the fortunately few synonyms heretofore grouped under *Testudo serpentina* Linnæus, which may be restricted to the northern or extremely keeled form. *Chelydra lacertina* Schweigger is virtually identical. The remaining *Chelydra emarginata* of Agassiz may then refer to the southern form, or at least to that common in the Delaware Valley and south.

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## COLOR CHANGES IN COLLARED LIZARDS.

Last summer it was my good fortune to be able to study Bailey's Collared Lizard (*Crotaphytes collaris*) in the Painted Desert of northern Arizona. Those which I observed were found only in localities where the volcanic or other rock occurred in piles, or was scattered over the ground. The lizards were generally seen perched upon one of these rocks. During the cooler hours of the day they were nearly always a dark, dirty gray, but when the air was warm and the lizards became more active, the color changed to a bright emerald green. This was in the country of the sandstone rocks. Where the black lava rock occurred the great majority of the lizards were of the same dark color, even when active and during the sunny part of the day. In this latter country they were a perfect example of protective coloration, but the green ones seem quite conspicuous, unless one could imagine a resemblance to the short grass, which occurred irregularly.

I have two specimens in captivity, and notice this same color change during the day. In the